



"Ensuring Quality in Higher Education"

# Call for Papers!

## The State of Higher Education in Zambia 2020

### Theme: *Teaching and Learning in the New Normal.*

The Coronavirus pandemic posed great challenges for the higher education sector in 2020. Among the most significant challenges faced by actors in the sector was how to continue teaching and learning while grappling with COVID lockdowns and restrictions. To address this challenge, most higher education institutions (HEIs) turned to distance education and online learning as a means to achieving their education goals. For most HEIs, this signified an important shift in education - from campus based to electronic based teaching and learning.

While distance education and online learning provided HEIs with the means to rescue their education agenda, we still have little understanding of the challenges and success stories experienced by various actors in the implementation of this mode of teaching and learning and how, in turn, the education process was affected. To understand these issues, studies are required to provide insight into the experiences of lecturers, learners and educational administrators with distance education and online learning during the COVID pandemic. Such studies are critical for generating important lessons and identifying best practices with potential to sustain education processes in the face of such disturbances.

As a response to the need for such studies, the 2020 State of Higher Education Report will focus on the link between COVID 19 and higher education processes such as teaching and learning. In particular, the report will have an explicit focus on the utilization of distance education and online learning as a response to teaching and learning challenges emanating from COVID 19 restrictions.

The report will seek to address the following questions:

- (i) In what ways did COVID -19 impact the higher education sector in Zambia?
- (ii) How was distance education and online learning deployed to address COVIC-19 induced challenges by HEIs?

- (iii) What were the experiences of lectures, students and education administrators in the implementation of distance education and online learning?
- (iv) What were the main challenges faced by the sector in the implementation of distance and online learning?

In order to address these challenges, the Higher Education Authority invites submission of research and policy papers that link COVID-19 to higher education. In particular, the papers should provide insight into the experiences of diverse actors in varying institutional settings in the implementation of distance education and online learning.

The topics of particular interest include:

- (i) Learners and lecturer's experiences with distance education and online learning
- (ii) Rural-urban inequalities and online learning
- (iii) HEIs' experiences and responses to COVID
- (iv) Higher Education and COVID 19: An international perspective

### **Submission Instructions**

The papers should not exceed 2,000 words and should be in font size 12, Times New Roman. Figures and Tables should be inside the text. The Harvard style of referencing should be used.

All papers should be submitted electronically to:

Mr. Denny Nsokolo

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### **Deadline**

The papers should be submitted to Higher Education Authority no later than 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2021.

## **About the Annual State of Higher Education Report**

The State of Higher Education Report is an annual publication of the Higher Education Authority which is aimed at publishing information on the status of higher education in Zambia and stimulating debate on emerging issues in the sector. The report is published in accordance with the Higher Education Act No. 4 of 2013.

The report is published in form of an edited volume with an ISSN. Papers accepted for publication will be published as chapters in the volume. The 2020 Report, under the theme 'Teaching and Learning in the New Normal' will be the second publication in the series.

Papers that will not be published in the State of Higher Education Report may be considered for publication in a special publication on the same subject.